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Atty. Dkt. No. 050851-0101

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently amended) A method which comprises:

investing by a pension plan of at least a portion of one or more assets of the pension plan so as to acquire an ownership interest in a selected set of current, in-force life settlement ~~insurance~~ contracts sold by owners of the ~~set of current, in-force life settlement insurance~~ contracts, wherein each of the set of current, in-force life settlement ~~insurance~~ contracts is characterized in that it either (a) provides a plurality of periodic payments during the life of an insured or (b) provides a single death benefit on the life of an insured, and is selected so that the insured is not a beneficiary of the pension plan, and is selected so that the remaining life expectancy of each of the insureds is within a predetermined limit;

calculating by the pension plan or having calculated, by means of an apparatus, a total value of the pension plan assets inclusive of the interest in the selected set of current, in-force life settlement ~~insurance~~ contracts so acquired, to thereby convert a value of the assets of the pension plan used to acquire the interest in the selected set of current, in-force life settlement ~~insurance~~ contracts into an actuarial present value of the interest in the selected set of current, in-force life settlement ~~insurance~~ contracts; and

maintaining by the pension plan or having maintained the enforceability of the selected set of current, in-force life settlement ~~insurance~~ contracts and processing or having processed death benefits arising from the life settlement contracts.

2. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein each of the one or more life settlement ~~insurance~~ contracts is characterized in that it provides a single death benefit on the life of an insured.

3. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 2, wherein the remaining life expectancy of the insureds under the life settlement ~~insurance~~ contracts is no more than 20 years.

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4. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 3, wherein the remaining life expectancy of the insureds under the life settlement ~~insurance~~ contracts is no more than 15 years.

Claims 5 – 21 are cancelled.

22. (Cancelled) The method according to claim 1, wherein the life insurance contracts are life settlement contracts.

23. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the investing step comprises investing in an ownership interest in a pool of current, in-force life settlement ~~insurance~~ contracts.

24. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 23, wherein the pool of current, in-force life settlement ~~insurance~~ contracts are life settlement contracts obtained and made available for acquisition by a third party and wherein the third party maintains or has maintained the enforceability of the selected set of current, in-force life settlement contracts and processes or has processed death benefits arising from the life settlement contracts.

25. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:  
setting a selection criterion for the selected set of current, in-force life settlement ~~insurance~~ contracts that there will be no relative concentration of dollar value amount attributable to a single insurer or carrier.

26. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:  
administering the pension plan on an approximately regular basis to perform the investing and calculating steps to thereby reduce an unfunded actuarial accrued liability (UAL) and/or reduce any corresponding UAL amortization.